

Polymer-Clay Nanocomposites - Better Plastics

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Outline

- Plastic-Nanoclay Technology
- Commercial Applications
- Environmental Benefits







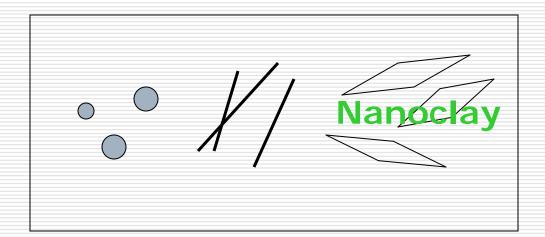


Nanotechnology

From composite to nanocomposite:

One continuous phase and at least one discontinuous phase

At least one dimension in 100-nm scale











Nanocomposite Benefits

- Mechanical properties improvement
 - Increase stiffness without loss of flexibility
 - Increased dimensional stability
- Enhanced barrier properties
- Chemical and thermal stability
- Flame retardation in combination with FR agents
- Easy processing and recycling

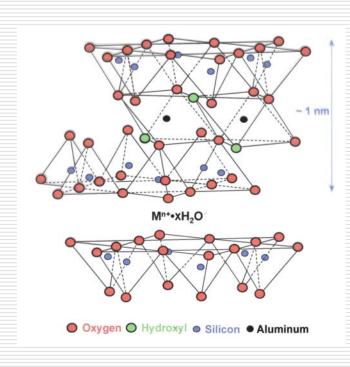








Nanoclay



BENTONITE:

FDA 21CFR184.1155 GRAS: "Generally Recognized as Safe"

High aspect ratio Silicate layers 200-300

Possible inner layer chemistry

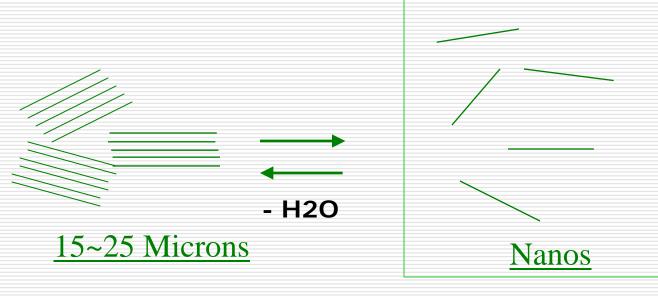
Nanoclay platelets are one-ten thousandth the diameter of a human hair!!











Na-Bentonite

Water Dispersion

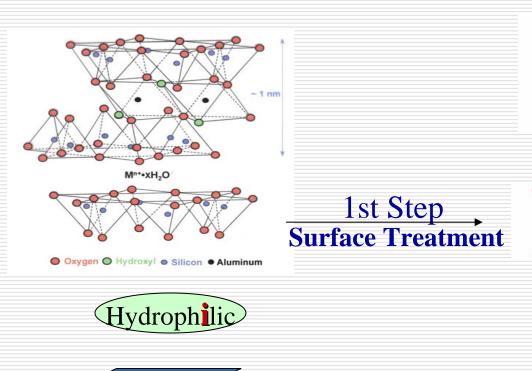
BEST DISPERSED NANOCLAY

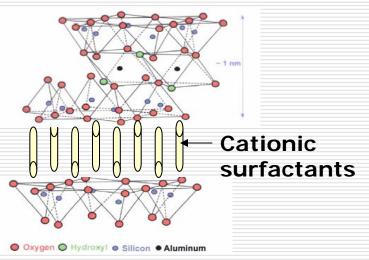




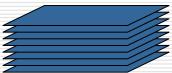








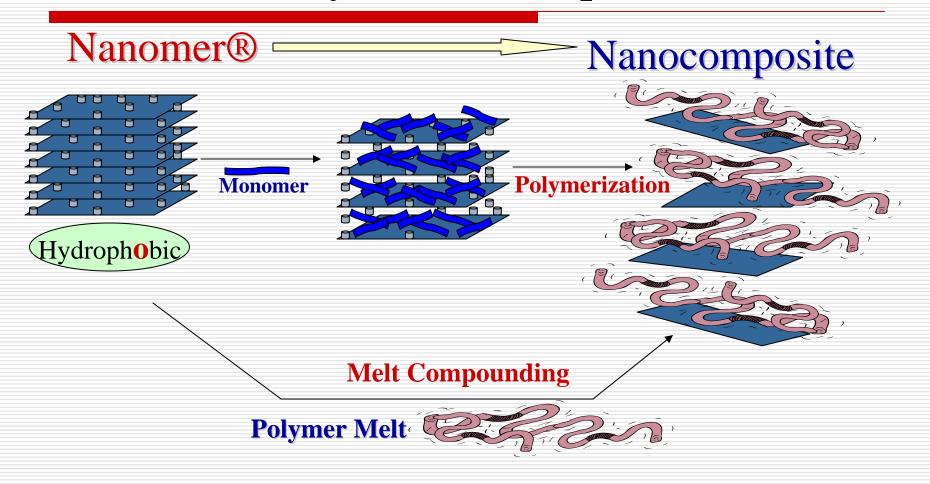
SEPTEMBER 25-26, 2007









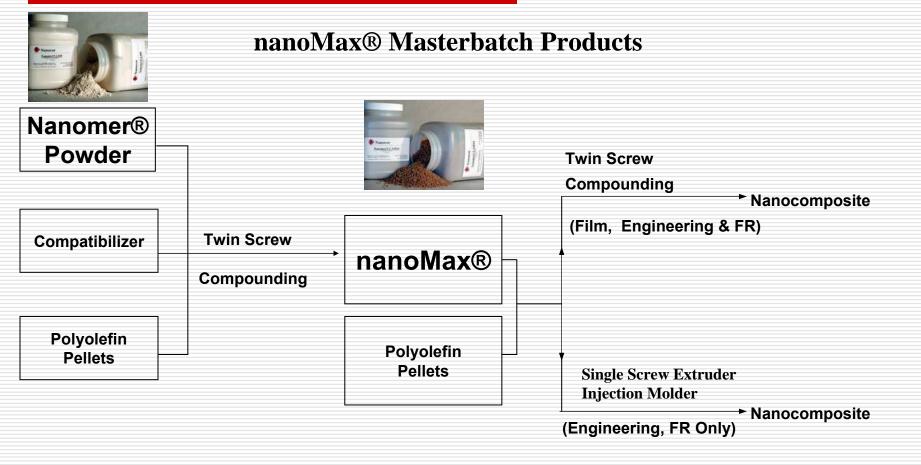










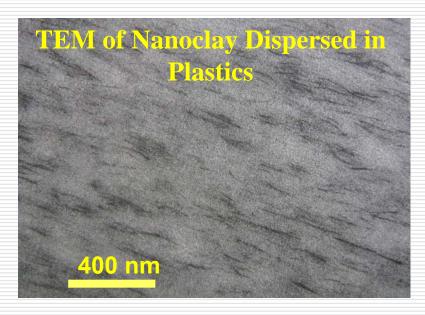


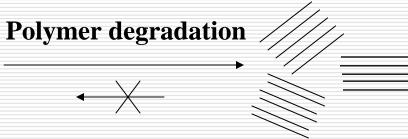












Nanoclay layers are encapsulated in the polymer only



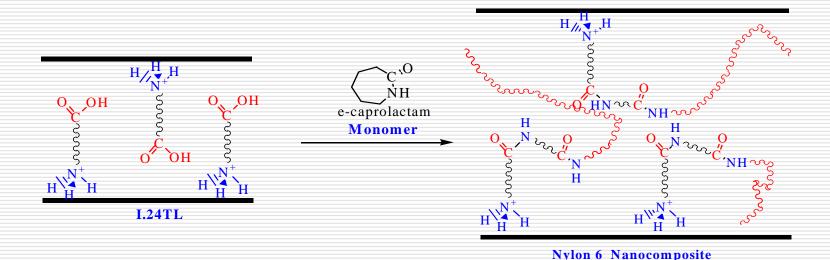






Nano-PA6

- In situ polymerization process with patented technology
- FDA/EU approval status for direct food contact



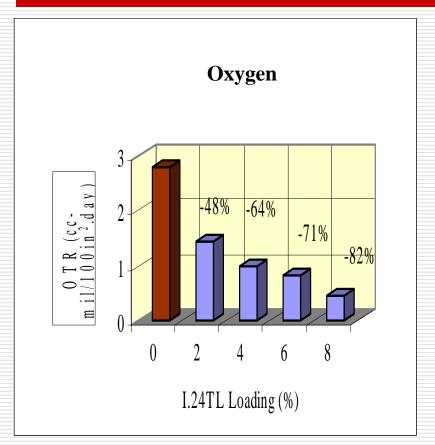


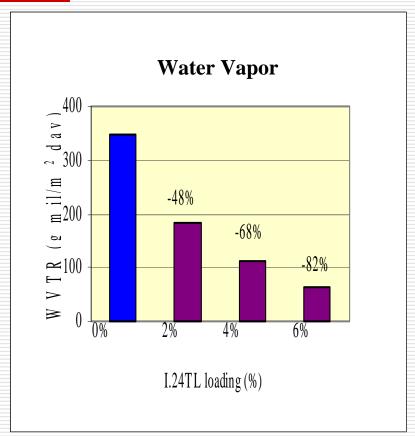






Barrier Improvement of nano-PA6













Film Mechanical Properties of Nano-PA6

Cast Monolayer Films (20-30 micron)

Flow Direction

Testing Sample	%Nano Loading	Young's Modulus (Mpa)	Yield Strength (Mpa)	Strain @ break (%)
Nylon 6 B135WP	n/a	150	12	700
Nano-PA6	3%	270	35	650

Perpendicular Direction

Testing Sample	%Nano Loading	Young's Modulus (Mpa)	Yield Strength (Mpa)	Strain @ break (%)
Nylon 6 B135WP	n/a	200	16	600
Nano-PA6	3%	380	28	550









Nanocomposites

- Same Tm, Tg ---Same processing
- Smart design

Use less resin --- same strength and barrier

PE//PA6//PE = 40//20//40

PE//nano-PA6// = 40//10//40

10% saving in film weight









Nanocomposites

Applications of Nano-PA6: Stand-up pouch







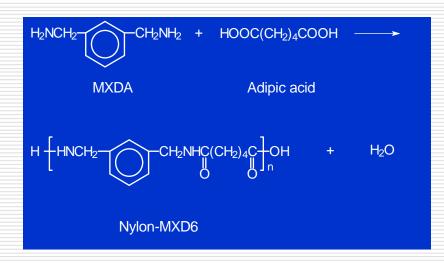




Nanocomposites



Nano-Nylon MXD6













Imperm® Barrier Properties

Property	Units	MXD6 a)	Imperm ^{a)}
OTR (23°C, 60%RH)	cc·mm/m²·day·atm	0.09	0.02
CO ₂ TR (23°C, 60%RH)	cc·mm/m²·day·atm	0.30	0.15
WVTR (40°C, 90%RH)	g∙mm/m²∙day	1.36	0.58

a) Non-oriented monolayer film









O₂ and CO₂ Sensitive Products















Nanocomposites for Military Food Packaging



MRE Barrier Specifications:

OTR ≤ 0.06cc/m²-day-atm

WvTR ≤ 0.01g/m²-day-atm

Objectives

- Eliminate Foil Layer in Meal Ready to Eat (MRE) Packaging
 - Capability of Microwave Processing, High Pressure Pasteurization, Radio Frequency Sterilization.
 - Reduction of Stress-Cracks and Pin-Holes
 - Reduce Processing Steps (No-lamination required)





Decrease MRE weight



Reduce Solid Waste

Shelf Life = 3 Years at 80°F, 6 Months at 100°F

US ARMY NATICK SOLDIER RD&E CENTER. The Science Behind the Warrior: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (Tarrior)



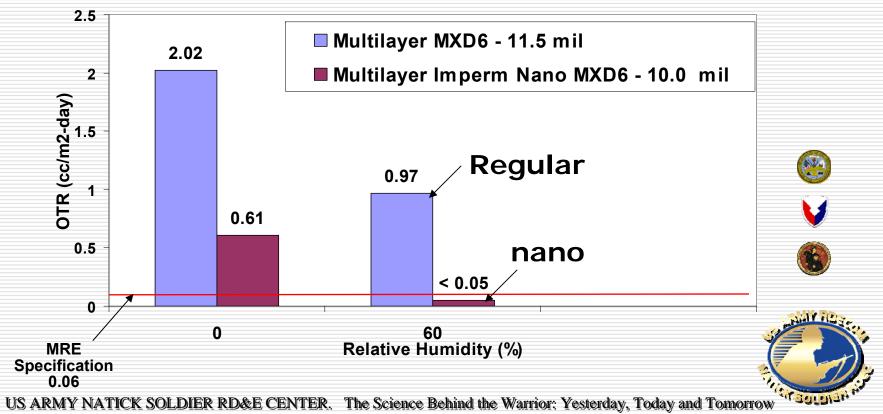






Nanocomposites for Military Food Packaging

Oxygen Transmission of Multilayer MXD6 and Imperm Films











Nanoclay as FR Additives



Low Nanomer loading level

Reduction of Traditional FR Agents

Dripping Control

Anti-Blooming

Good Mechanical Properties

Easy Processing

Regulation Favorable









Nanoclay as FR Additives

- Brominated systems
 Reduce toxicity
- Metal Hydroxide-MDH, ATH Easy processing, high productivity
- Intumescing systems
 Easy processing







Wire and Cable Application



Non-Hal, low smoke jacket Slow burning Low heat release rate









Auto Parts



Noble

Nano-PP replace GF Filled PP 25% weight reduction, easy processing



CP Polymer CRESS-ALON™ A Nano

Nano Resin Brand name - Cress-Alon Injection grade - NE2740, NE6040ST



nanoSEAL™ barrier resin









Marine Fuel Tank

In 2002 we had a two fold mission, one was to find an alternative to aluminum fuel tanks and second was to be first to market with a process that exceeds EPA directives of minimizing hydrocarbon emissions from fuel tanks in pleasure boats

ALUMINUM TANKS



For many years the boating community have used aluminum tanks but not without issues



A 1992 Underwriters Laboratory study

on aluminum tank corrosion found the

average service life for aluminum

tanks is only 6.5 years

Seaworthy magazine revealed that 8%

of all boat fires were caused by fuel leaks.

While diesel fuel was an occasional culprit, 95% of fuel-related fires were caused by gasoline



roprietary technology described herein is confidential and owned by Engineered Composite Solutions



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site Solutions ide a composite fuel containment system ins.









ECS-FRP TANK DATA



NanoTank DATA

Using 10% Ethanol test fuel

ECS tank permeation was

measured at .047 g/g/day

EPA TEST RESULTS FOR ECSI COMPOSITE FUEL TANK Thu, 02 Oct 2003 13:13:34 -0400

US EPA tested the ECSI fuel tank at 85 F using 10% ethanol 90% Indolene test fuel. Permeation was determined through weight loss measurements over 2 weeks. Prior to testing, the fuel tank was set on soak at 80 F for 14 weeks with the same fuel blend (fresh fuel was used for the testing). The results were a permeation rate for the composite tank over the last 9 days was 0.67 g/m2/day. Fig 1 shows EPA proposed compliance baseline

fig.1

Federal Register/Vol. 67, No. 157/Wednesday, August 14, 2002/Proposed Rules are presented in Table III.C-1 because permeation standards are based on the they represent an important parameter in defining the emission levels. The lotal capacity of the fuel tank as described below. The proposed hose permention standards are based on the not proposing standards for hot soak and refueling emissions, as described above, at this time. proposed fuel tank venting and TABLE III. C-1.-PROPOSED EVAPORATIVE STANDARDS

Test temperature 22.2-35.6°C (72-96 F) n 15% methanoi blend

The proposed emission standards are based on our evaluation of several fuel system technologies (described in Section III.H) which vary in cost and in Clean Air Act section 213. An emission-credit program can reduce the cost and consissions. By using different credit program can reduce the cost and improve the technological feasibility of achieving standards, helping to ensure combinations of these technologies, manufacturers will be able to produce products that as hieve a range of the attribuent of the standards earlier

Notice the compliance standard for tank permeation was established in course per gallon per day at .08/g/gal/test-day. The ECSI emissions test tank was one meter square inside and 14 gallons capacity, therefore .67 grams divided by 14 equal .047/g/gal/test-day

USCG permeation tests on a 12 gallon rotationally molded cross-link polyethylene tank tested at 1.5/g/gal/test-day

nano

EPA rule requires no more than.08 g/g/day

Regular

Current plastic tanks produce Circa 1.5 g/g/day





Agriculture Film Application



Reduce MeBr emission





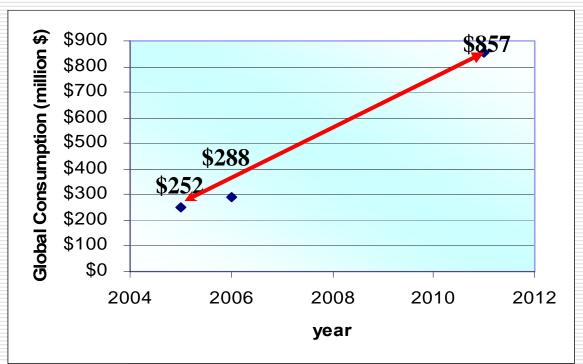


Nanocomposite Market

Data Source: BCC Research

www.bccresearch.com

Global Consumption of Nanocomposites



Average Annual Growth Rate (AAGR) 24.4%

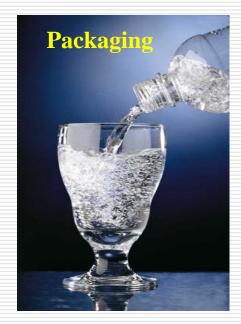


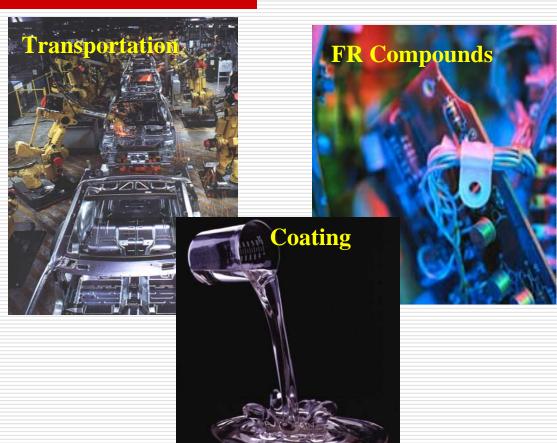






Nanocor Markets













Summary

- Nanoclays are effective additives to make better plastics
- Nanocomposite resins offer same processing and recycle
- Use of nanocomposite have good environmental impact
 - Lower weight auto parts
 - Less toxic flame retardant compounds
 - Thinner plastic package
 - Durable/impermeable fuel tanks
 - ...









Company Information



www.amcol.com (NYSE: ACO)

AMCOL International Corp., through its operating subsidiaries, is a leading international producer and marketer of value-added, specialty minerals and related products. The Company's products serve 12 major markets, including—metalcasting, detergents, pet products, building materials and personal care. AMCOL operates a transportation segment that acts as a servicing operation for other business segments and outside customers.

Headquartered in Arlington Heights, Ill., AMCOL operates 68 facilities in Asia, Australia, Europe and North America. The Company employs 1,750+ employees in more than 26 countries. The Company, established in 1927,



American Colloid

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